

Commissioners:

I am writing to ask that the Federal Communications Commission reject the petition by the National Association of Broadcasters (petition #04-160) regarding the delivery of local traffic and weather information on XM Satellite Radio.

I made the switch to satellite radio as a result of the poor variety of broadcast channels in my local radio market (Washington, D.C.). There are times, however, that I need information about traffic and weather, and in those instances, I look to the 24-hour, constantly updated broadcast from XM.

If local broadcasters have issue with XM's delivery of local information, perhaps the NAB should fund a region-wide 24-hour radio station that broadcasts the same type of always-updated information?

Until that time, it seems to me that the NAB petition is nothing more than an effort to use their considerable influence (and money) to hinder a competitive product from a company that has, quite frankly, raised the bar for audio-only broadcasts.

If previous petitions of this nature -- especially those designed to stall the development of television and FM radio -- had been successful, where would we be today? Hunched over AM transistor radios, listening to low-audio-quality radio programs?

Please reject the NAB's petition and allow satellite radio subscribers to continue paying for a service that the NAB and its associated entities have been unwilling to provide for free.

Regards,

Sean Sands